

Photo Shopper

THE UK'S BIGGEST PHOTO BUYERS' GUIDE

SLRs

If you plan to take up photography as a hobby then a 35mm SLR is the camera for you. They have interchangeable lenses for superb versatility and many come with program exposure for ease of use as well as manual modes for the more experienced user.

● **EXPOSURE:** Centre-weighted metering is standard, but many of the latest models also have multi-pattern for extra accuracy.

● **FLASH:** Some SLRs have a built-in flash for convenient low-light shooting, but a hot-shoe flash can be added if required.

● **HANDLING:** Motorwind, autofocus and auto-exposure all help improve the speed of handling and overall ease of use.

● **FOCUSING:** Many SLRs have autofocus for sharp-shooting, while a manual focus option lets you take complete control.

● **SHUTTER:** An SLR offers a wide range of user changeable shutter speeds for creative shooting – larger ranges are more versatile.

● **LENS:** SLRs accept a vast choice of lenses so you can pick the ones that suit your picture taking needs.

How to use our camera listings

All the cameras are arranged in price order. Look at the models in your price band and use the information in each box to find your ideal camera.

Guide prices are as supplied by the distributor and cover the body plus a standard lens, unless otherwise indicated. Dealers often cut this price, so shop around.

Verdicts from tests, long term use and opinions from BC technical team.

See Missed a Test page for BC test reprint service.

Our unique rating system balances subjective views of handling with an objective look at features and performance. An accurate percentage rating is given on the data guide page.

MINOLTA 500SI SUPER £450

Recently launched to satisfy a market midway between Minolta's 500si and their 700si. Offers additional features over the 500si such as spot metering, DX-override and a remote release, as well as quieter operation – features more suited to the advanced photographer.

● **LENS: 35-70MM**
● **BC TEST: SEPT '95**

BC OVERALL RATING



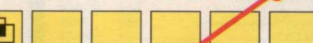
Key to features at the bottom of each page.



AUTO FOCUS

EXP. MODES .P, AP, SP, M, PIC
BODY WEIGHT400g
SHUTTER SPEEDS 30-1/2000sec
MOTORWIND1fps

FEATURES
HANDLING
PERFORMANCE
VALUE



Lens supplied as standard with the camera. Other options are usually available.

Our Best Buy logo indicates best in its class and highly recommended.

Autofocus cameras can usually be switched to manual if required.

Key at the bottom of each page

An objective look at features based on our huge database that takes into account the camera's full spec.

Based on results shot on slide film testing exposure, lens sharpness, focusing, durability etc.

ZENIT 122 £74

A back-to-basics all manual SLR that offers simple features and a reasonable performance at a bargain price. Not the most attractive camera, but it's strongly built, and capable of excellent results if you think about what you're doing.



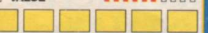
MANUAL FOCUS

● **LENS: 58MM**
● **BC TEST: MARCH '94**

BC OVERALL RATING



FEATURES
HANDLING
PERFORMANCE
VALUE



ZENIT AUTO £100

A modern look for this Russian make, now with aperture-priority. A capable, basic camera that delivers a set of accurately exposed and sharp results. There's no shutter speed indication in the viewfinder, but at £99 you can't quibble at the price.



MANUAL FOCUS

● **LENS: 58MM**
● **BC TEST: JAN '95**

BC OVERALL RATING



FEATURES
HANDLING
PERFORMANCE
VALUE



VIVITAR V3000S £130

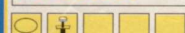
Basic completely manual SLR, so you have to load film, set the speed, adjust exposure, wind on, and focus yourself. There are advantages, i.e. the obviously low cost, and non battery dependence, but as you're in full control it's perfect for learning the basics of photography.



MANUAL FOCUS

● **LENS: 50MM**
● **BC TEST: NOV '95**

BC OVERALL RATING



FEATURES
HANDLING
PERFORMANCE
VALUE



DEPTH-OF-FIELD PREVIEW EXPOSURE COMPENSATION CONT. FRAME ADVANCE CENTRE-WEIGHTED MULTI-PATTERN METER EXPOSURE MODES: P-PROGRAM AP-APERTURE PRIORITY SP-SHUTTER PRIORITY M-MANUAL D-DEPTH PRC-PROGRAMME IMAGE CONTROL